Church of God

Evangel

February 18, 1957

George and Martha Washington at Mount Vernon

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Do You Attend a "Homogenized Church?"
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UPWARD UNDER CHRIST

WASHINGTON:

The Man—See page 5
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Church of God
Evangel

Official organ of the Church of God
CHARLES W. CONN, *Editor*

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DECLARATION OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible. 2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. 3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor. 4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins. 5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ. 6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost. 7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people. 8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart. 9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. 10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. 11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement. 12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet. 13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second to reign on the earth a thousand years. 14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

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BULLETIN BOARD

Notice

We should like for every church, during the month of February, to send to the Church of God Home for Children, all available S & H Green Stamps. These stamps have a great value to the Home as we can get many first-class items from them. —*Cecil Bridges, Superintendent*

We have opened a Church of God Mission in Bangor, Maine. This is near Dow Air Base. Anyone having friends or relatives in or near Bangor, please contact Brother Carrol Motsinger, 383 Main Street, Apartment 2, Bangor, Maine. —*George W. Ayers, Overseer*

We should like for a man, or a couple, talented in playing musical instruments, who have a burning desire to work for God in praying for the sick and a stirring message from God's Word, to conduct a revival meeting at the Church of God in Great Falls, Montana. The church will seat 200 and is a very nice building. The membership is very small, but some good people are attending. We should like to begin the revival about the end of February or the first of March. Contact: Rev. Ralph E. Northrup, Pastor, 1012 First Avenue, N. W., Great Falls, Montana, Telephone: Glendale-20208. —*Ralph E. Northrup*

Visit the Holy Land in 1957.—Spend Easter in Jerusalem. This wonderful tour of twenty-eight days, covering seven of the ancient Bible land countries, is scheduled to leave New York, April 2, 1957, via Trans-World Airlines, Inc., with the Hodgson's Travel Service, Inc., providing the land arrangements. The Reverend D. B. Hatfield, conductor of this tour, lived in the Middle East for more than six years and travelled extensively over those sacred lands in the line of duty. He, therefore, is naturally very familiar with many of the Biblical sights that ordinarily are overlooked by others. His rich experience and personal acquaintance with many of the people and places of interest enable him to make the trip an illustrative one for each of the party members. His party will attend the Easter sunrise service this year at the empty tomb of Christ in Jerusalem. Further particulars are available by writing for a free folder to: D. B. Hatfield, Tour Conductor, 608 Maple Street, Hazard, Kentucky.

Life's Greatest Question —

Are You a Child of God?

By J. H. Walker, Jr.

Text: John 3:16

GOD LOVES YOU and wants you to be His child. It is His desire to have a people who are like Him—kind, honest, pure, trustworthy, good, of good report, and motivated by love.

When He placed man in the Garden of Eden He talked with him and had communion with him. But man became lustful and disobedient; sin entered into his heart and separated him from God. Still God loved him and wanted to be loved in return, but He wanted a voluntary love from a willing heart. He provided man with a means of restoring his relationship if he so desired.

Through the sacrifice of animals and the shedding of their blood, man was able to communicate with God, his heavenly Father. The question may be raised, "Why kill the animals, or why was the blood necessary?" There may be some good theological arguments given, but the important answer is that God chose this means and revealed it to His followers. Since then God has always had a people who were obedient to His command.

He made a covenant with Israel and declared that if they would have no other God before Him and would keep His commandments, that He would be their God and they would be His people. In later years the prophets looked back on the wandering in the wilderness which immediately followed this covenant as the honeymoon period of God and Israel. It was a time of communion when God supplied their needs and they worshipped Him. However, the honeymoon ended abruptly when Israel became unfaithful and followed after gods of the land of Canaan. For this sin Israel suffered; her history is the story of what people can expect when they refuse fellowship with God.

Finally Jeremiah tells us that God has made a new convenant, not of stone but of the heart. It is to be personal. It is for each individual. "The soul that sinneth it shall die." "But everyone shall die for his own iniquity" (Jeremiah 31:30). "I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people" (Jeremiah 31:33). In spite of adulterous Israel's unfaithfulness God was a forgiving husband who longed for her love. He offered every opportunity for her to repent, to return, and promised to forgive her iniquity and remember her sin no more. He wants a people, longs for a people who will love Him and serve Him.

He comforted the hearts of those who were obedient by promising them a Messiah who would redeem them, taking upon Himself their sins, who would be wounded for their transgressions, bruised for their iniquities, oppressed, afflicted, despised, rejected of men, and yet would be the perfect sacrifice restoring them to their rightful place as children of God. Many had faith to believe and looked forward to this memorable event.

According to the plan of God and in the fullness of time Christ the Messiah came. He was the perfect sacrifice: "He knew no sin . . ." "He was without sin"; yet, He died that everyone's sins could be forgiven and victory won over sin. "Without shedding of blood is no remission (of sin)" (Hebrews 9:22). "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:7). Thus the means of being restored to full fellowship with God is through the Lord Jesus Christ.

GOD LOVES YOU, but do you love Him? God wants you, but do you want Him? The decision is yours. The way is prepared. The sacrifice has been made. Repent of your sins and believe that God will forgive you as He promises He will. Be restored to a full fellowship with God. Speak to God as though you have been on a long journey and now are returning home. He is your Father who is waiting to hear your voice. It is not His desire that any should perish but that all should be saved.

For His children He offers many blessings. He heals when we are sick, comforts when we are saddened, brings joy and gladness in time of sorrow, peace in the face of trouble, and a promise of life everlasting in His presence. He offers us an opportunity for service. He will help us to be like Him—kind, honest, just, forgiving, merciful, motivated by love. "I will be your God, and ye shall be my people."

Right now, wherever you are, ask God's forgiveness. Are you sorry for your sins, for not living as God wants you to, for not striving to please Him first, for living selfishly for yourself instead of for others, for not being in full fellowship with God? Then tell Him. He understands. From your heart speak to Him. Remember, He loves you even as He loved Israel in spite of her sin.

The Strength of Character Which Day by Day Won

By E. E. Shoupe

OF GEORGE WASHINGTON'S part in the Revolution, it is said that "the greatest factor . . . was not his great mind, for Franklin's was greater; not his force, energy, or ingenuity, for Benedict Arnold surpassed him in these qualities; not his military experience, for Charles Lee's was far more extensive; but it was the strength of character which day by day won the love of his soldiers and the perfect confidence of his countrymen."

It was this strength of character which inspired an armed mob into an organized force, won the respect of a wrangling and disgruntled Congress, brought a common bond to jealous states, and influenced the political trend to a united and respected government of the United States.

The life history of George Washington is a study of the greatest challenge with which man has to deal: himself. It may be thought that Washington was endowed with greater stature, and because of this he was able to attain outstanding achievements. However, as with many other similar examples in life, the stature did not come by an endowment from his Creator. Formal education, in his formative years as well as afterwards was scanty; also he had very little culture, to mention two factors that are thought to enhance a person's stature.

Washington in Prayer at Valley Forge

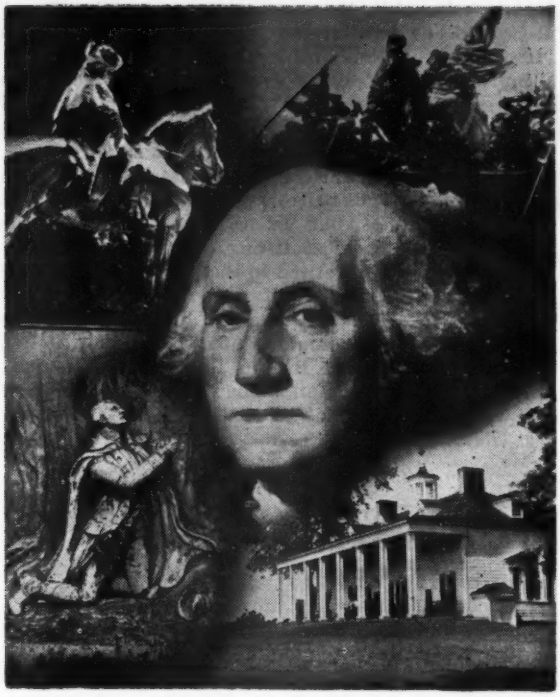
All through the majority of his years, during his victories and his setbacks, he had to use much effort and energy to preserve the integrity and honest awareness of his capability to do that which hinged not on other person's words or deeds but on his own consciousness of that inward, personal power and judgment that urged him in a demanding fervor to do what he knew was the just and unbiased thing to do. To keep self devoid of or insensible to its own demands is an awesome challenge to the fearful and, if I may say so, a little less so to those of vision and courage.

It is most reassuring for one to rest on his laurels of accomplishments, but self finds no satisfaction in reverses and defeats. Since life has a higher goal than self-attainment, Washington used self very little as a pivotal point of judgment in directing or charting his life's activities and goals. During his military career, as long as he was having victories, the people had something upon which to pin his reputation. When defeats and reverses came, and not wholly contingent upon the enemy, the people found little pleasure or consolation to pin their respect and confidence on him with faith. One must be made of different mettle than most to meet unpopularity and misrepresentation courageously. When one considers such circumstances, he can say how little man has changed since the beginning.

THERE IS ONE fundamental principle of human action that one cannot avoid and still retain a healthy attitude in life, and that is decision. Everyone must make decisions whether the results bring benefits or liabilities. Washington continued to do what had been his greatest task from the first in spite of his waning popularity and the facing of Valley Forge.

We, like him, face situations when we must "be consistently patient and brave in adversity." We must not permit unjust criticism to arouse vociferous resentment. One of the greatest tests of man's controlled possession of self comes when he is unjustly

(Continued on page 6)



Washington: THE MAN

By Clyne W. Buxton

The strength in Washington lay in the combination of his powers, not in any supreme gift in which he stood unexcelled.

WASHINGTON WAS a godly man. He was a man of prayer and a lover of the Bible. Upon being confronted with sore trials or great responsibilities, he sought guidance and assurance in prayer. Certainly he was chosen of God to be the "father of America." Being a regular and devout worshiper in the sanctuary, he was a thorough church member. This is borne out by the testimony of one of his pastors: "I have often been at Mount Vernon on Sabbath morning when the breakfast table was filled with guests, but to him they furnished no pretext for neglecting the house of God, but he invariably invited them to accompany him."

What an example, this first president! His praying when faced with problems is far from the profane speech of some other statesmen under similar circumstances. His example of attending church regularly has been sadly forsaken by too many statesmen of this day.

George Washington was a man of great spiritual insight. Quite generally his biographers recognize and respect his reverent acknowledgement of God. To openly acknowledge the guidance of God as Washington did in his first inaugural address was not altogether the popular thing to do. This was the time when Thomas Payne's *The Age of Reason* was almost universally read; a time when most towns of any size had their Infidel Club. As men were lauding him highly as the victorious Commander-in-Chief of American Forces at the close of the Revolution, Washington calmly exclaimed, "I am but the instrument in the hand of God."

Washington was a devoted man, both to his country and to his God. Those years during the Revolutionary War were hard and cruel. Though to the end of his life he was an erect, comely gentleman, the weight of those long, hard war years slightly stooped his broad shoulders.

During the entire time of his serving his country as Commander of the Army, he would not accept pay, except his actual expense. He was so devoted to his task, and so bent on being everlastingly on the job, that he did not cross the threshold of his home for seven long years, notwithstanding the fact that he loved his wife Martha ardently. He never desired to lead his country; instead he often voiced his desire to be at home with his family and just be a man of the community. He served his country because he loved her.

Washington was, and is, an honored man. After America had won her independence, it seems that all eyes turned to Washington to be their President. He was the father of his country, the man of his times, the man "first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen," the Moses of America. His opinion was highly esteemed. In the Continental Congress, when differences of opinion had deadlocked the meeting, George Washington, the chairman, arose and uttered the immortal words: "Let us lift up a standard to which the wise and honest may resort; the event

CUTTING ONE'S LIGHT OF LIBERTY

is in the hands of God." These great words dissolved the deadlock, and the Congress got down to work.

WASHINGTON, BORN in Westmoreland County, Virginia, on February 22, 1732, was an honest man. Whether or not the story of the cherry tree is authentic, upon maturity Washington was revered as a man of utmost veracity. He was honest with God. On the battlefields he looked to God for victory, and when victory came, he reverently gave thanks to God. The word "providence" loomed highly in his vocabulary.

This man, having several characteristics of Moses, was a meek man. He lead the American people from their English bondage to their free "Canaan." On that eventful day when he was called upon to assume the presidency, he exclaimed, "I am not the man." In fact, Washington never asked for any office. When he was trying to evade the presidency of this newly-born nation, Colonel Lee sent this word: "It is God who has set you apart to do this particular work. You have begun the work; no hand but yours can complete it."

Patrick Henry said of Washington: "If you speak of eloquence, Mr. Rutledge, of South Carolina, is by far the greatest orator; but if you speak of solid information and sound judgment, Colonel Washington is unquestionably the greatest man on the floor." It was deeds, not oratory, that made Washington "first in the hearts of his countrymen."

On Washington's sixty-first birthday, a motion in Congress to adjourn for thirty minutes in honor of Washington was vigorously opposed by some, stating that it would be idolatrous. Since that time however, we have made his birthday a national holiday, and all the United States ceases official business not just for thirty minutes, but for an entire day. This, we Americans feel, is most fitting.

After having been retired to the privacy of his home at Mount Vernon for eight years, Washington died December 14, 1799, "to take up his march to the throne of God." All America mourned at his passing, and even the flags of Britain floated at half mast. Certainly this great man made footprints worthy of following "on the sands of time."

THE STRENGTH OF CHARACTER WHICH DAY BY DAY WON

(Continued from page 4)

criticised and hears an unsympathetic voice pass erroneous judgment upon him. In such an atmosphere George Washington found himself. It is said a conceited or vain man would have resigned and consigned the whole cause to perdition as a vindication of himself, but Washington was nobler than that.

Is there doubt that he knew of a life that was the "Light of all men," our Master, Jesus Christ? When one reads the life of George Washington one seems to see the shadows and outlines of another life from which came his power not only to think the way he thought but also to act accordingly. George Washington's life, in its Christian application, is a real challenge for those today who find much which cancels out the joy in Christian living. It is the strength of Christian character manifested day by day in times of criticism, adversity, opposition, and misrepresentation which will bring into being a magnetic personality representing the true Christian spirit and be a displaying power of Christ to a world much in need.

It is impossible to govern the world without God. He must be worse than an infidel that lacks faith, and more than wicked that has not gratitude enough to acknowledge his obligation. —*Washington*

— — —

While just government protects all in their religious rites, true religion affords governments its surest support. —*Washington*

— — —

I hope I shall always possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain what I consider the most enviable of all titles, the character of an honest man.

—*Washington*

CHURCH—WIDE
Y.P.E. CONTEST

RULES FOR Y.P.E. CONTEST

1. Contest covers four weeks, March 25—April 21, 1957.
2. Y.P.E.'s will be grouped according to their average attendance per week, from March 1, 1956 through February 28, 1957.

GROUP A	150 AND OVER
GROUP B	75 to 149
GROUP C	20 to 74

3. Five valuable prizes will be awarded in each of the three groups; a total of eighteen prizes will be awarded.
4. Those entering will be judged on the following basis: 50% of total percentage increase in average attendance for the four contest weeks in 1957, over average Y.P.E. attendance for March 1, 1956—February 28, 1957. The other 50% will be based on contest promotional methods. (Uniqueness and originality of programs, visitation, spiritual results, publicity.) A printed form (questionnaire) will be sent to each Y.P.E. that enters the contest, on which to report its promotional methods.
5. The contest concludes April 21, 1957. All reports of the contest must be postmarked before midnight June 1, 1957.
6. Decision of judges will be final. Winners outside the U.S.A. will be responsible for duty, entry permission, etc.

Read these rules carefully.

Determine the group you are to be classified in, and begin now to plan and organize.

An entry blank has been mailed to every church.

Mail your entry blank as soon as possible to Sunday School and Youth Department, 1080 Montgomery Avenue, Cleveland, Tennessee.

18 PRIZES TO BE AWARDED

GRAND PRIZE

Pastor—Round trip plane fare to Central America.
Y.P.E. President—Round trip plane fare to B.W.I. (Cuba, Haiti, Jamaica, and Puerto Rico).

STATE DIRECTOR PRIZE

Prize for director in whose state grand prize is won—Three Suiter (or cash equivalent)

GROUP PRIZES*

Group A

1st Prize—
Church—Film Projector
Y.P.E. President—$50 cash
2nd Prize—Large Church Library
3rd Prize—Typewriter
4th Prize—**Lamplighters** Club Material ($50 worth)
5th Prize—50 Youthspiration Song Books

Group B

Prizes are the same as listed in Group A

Group C

Prizes are the same as listed in Group A

*In case Y.P.E. has these prizes an appropriate substitute will be given.

A Homogenized Church

By C. D. Boatwright

"Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment," 1 Corinthians 1:10.

THERE IS A PERSIAN bird known as the juftak. It has only one wing. On the wingless side the male has a hook and the female a ring. Neither can fly alone, but when fastened together they can fly. How like the human race is the juftak! And how like the church! What would your church be like if only men and boys belonged, or only women and girls?

HANG

A great early American statesman, in the face of a divided nation and a looming foe, rose up in the Philadelphia National Congress and made this statement, "If we don't hang together, the King's army will hang us separately." How true this is when we consider the Church as an individual body or the Church as a whole. To be homogenized means "to be of the same kind or nature; to consist of similar parts." As a whole the Church of God is homogenized; in any part of the country or world you will find the same kind of fellowship and Bible doctrine. Let us surrender our attention to an individual church, your church. The only way to make your church go is to get together and work as a unit. Some of the members will have to climb a little and, possibly, some will have to come down a little, but they must be all on the same level, as far as purpose and goals are concerned. As the pistons working off a camshaft, you personally may not be the first one to be fired by the spark plug; you may not be the first one to push wheels into motion. However, you can be sure of one thing—if you are in working order, your time will come, and it may be sooner than you think. If you are a part of the machine, then do your job and do it well. You may not be the most important part of the whole, but if you do your job, and do it longer and better than all the rest, you will be the best and the most valuable.

A watch is good only when all the parts work well and work together. You may be the best clerk, Sunday School teacher, or pianist in the state, but unless you do your best to work with all the rest, you will only hurt the over-all church. It is not how well one part of the watch works that counts, but it is how well the different parts work together that really makes it a good watch. Regardless of how you feel about yourself or others, make sure that you are an homogeneous person, one who mixes well with the rest of the church. Not only mix, but mix so well that you become one (or homogenized)—"every man in his place." Every man of Gideon's three hundred had a place and task assigned to him. Everything depended upon each man's being loyal, dependable, and true. Every man did what he was supposed to do and when he was supposed to do it; there was prompt and simultaneous action. Thus are battles won for Christ and the Church in our modern world. Victories comparable to that won by Gideon's band could be won every day if God's people were dependable in their assignments. John Wesley once said, "If I had three hundred men who feared nothing but God, hated nothing but sin, and were determined to know nothing among men but Jesus Christ and Him crucified, I could set the world on fire." Let us not look just at the individual values of the Church and be satisfied, but let us look at the over-all and not be satisfied with anything less than an homogenized church.

The work of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem was completed in an incredibly short time—fifty-two days. The secret lay in zeal, teamwork, and leadership. In Baltimore there is a chapel that was built in a day. Plans were carefully laid, the materials assembled, the foundation was ready, and on a given day the Men's Bible Class, about forty strong, working under the supervision of a master builder, completely erected the building even to the placing of the roof. The value of unity is wonderfully bound up in these thoughts; zeal, teamwork, and enthusiasm—an homogenized church.

Healed of Many Ailments

TUPMAN, Calif.—I should like to praise the Lord for His healing power. He has healed me of many ailments for which I give Him all the praise.

—Ellen Browton

— — —

Crippled by Arthritis 20 Years, Receives Strength and Healing From God

TUCSON, Ariz.—In 1937 crippling osteoarthritis started to deform and cripple my body. I tried every known remedy to cure my body, but I received no help from any remedy. I continued to grow worse, until finally in 1949 I consented to a hip operation. The doctor installed a metal cup on my hip joint. This operation was supposed to relieve the terrible pain I had, and straighten my leg.

The only help I received from the operation was that my leg was straightened somewhat. However, even after the operation, that leg was an inch and a half shorter than my other leg. I have had to use crutches for nearly seven years, because of the operation. The doctor that operated told me he had to cut more than he had originally intended. Naturally, when he told me this I assumed I would never walk as long as I lived. The pain in my leg was even worse than before my operation. So as a last resort, I went to Tucson, Arizona. I arrived in Tucson in July of 1952. My condition has improved somewhat in four years.

In September 1956, some friends of mine persuaded me to go to church. That Sunday in September I was saved. I thank the Lord for saving my soul. I also thank God it was a Pentecostal church. In the next three weeks I was prayed for twice for the healing of my body, but nothing happened; I just did not have enough faith. On October 21, 1956, in the Church of God at Tucson (Brother Bowers, pastor), I received a touch from God as they prayed for me. My fear of not being able to walk was completely taken away from me. I was able to walk to my seat without crutches. Then Brother Bowers asked me to walk around the church. I did this with very little effort. Then he asked me to lead a march around the church, which I did with little effort.

I did not receive complete and instantaneous healing at that time, but I trust in God that my body will be completely healed. Today I use a cane, but only until the muscles in my leg become stronger. I have had dozens of persons comment on how much straighter I look. They can hardly believe it when I tell them I was touched by the Lord. I am a walking testimony, so they have to believe. God has answered every prayer, and He has certainly changed my life and made life worth while. I hope and pray this testimony will help someone sick to have faith and believe, and the Lord will do the rest.

—John W. Beher
Attested by James E. Bowers

Woman Born Blind Healed by Divine Power

OCALA, Fla.—I was born 21 years ago blind, with weak lungs and a weak heart. At the age of two and one half years my eyes were operated on for cataracts. I could then see moving objects. At the age of eight, I could see enough to get around the house, but it seemed just like looking through a frosty white glass. I could hardly talk during this time. For three months I went to a sight seeing school, but was unable to continue because of sickness.

When I was ten years old I had a heart and nerve disease called St. Vitus's dance. I was placed in a rest home in Fort Myers, Florida. I got a little better there. My eyes were so bad that I could not go to the public school, but was placed in the school for the deaf and blind at St. Augustine, Florida. I was there for five years. There I learned many things, but most important, I learned about the Lord and how to pray and read His Word. My heart grew so weak that they sent me home, and my health was so bad that I could not walk or hear.

When I was sixteen, I went to the University of Pennsylvania, but I did not have the operation on my heart although my heart has a hole in it. My neighbors took me to Youngstown, Ohio, and to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to Miss Kathryn Kuhhan's meetings. I felt the presence of the Lord and received the Holy Ghost. My sight began to improve. My hearing came back and I could talk again.

I went to some Pentecostal meetings in New Castle, Pennsylvania and while there my eyes improved and I began to realize and understand that the Lord was completely healing me. I prayed to God to teach me to write, and I saw a vision of a piece of paper rolled up. As it unwound a hand began to write and a voice began telling me the letters. God taught me how to write; my heart has greatly improved, and I testify to all these things for the glory of God.

—Mrs. Alice Summers

reports

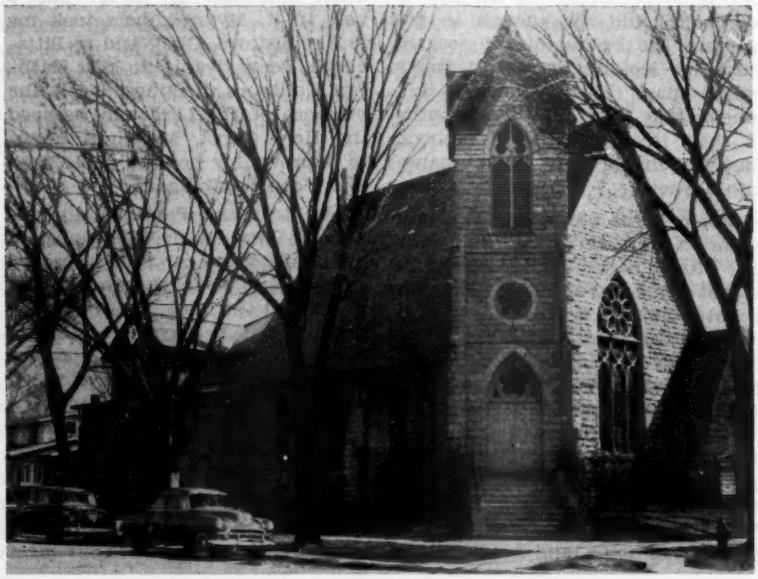
DeKalb Church of God Takes Great Step Forward

On Sunday morning, October 7, 1956, the Church of God, DeKalb, Illinois, with the Reverend John Black as pastor, held the closing service in the little stone block church on E. Lewis Street. After Sunday School, at which ninety-six were present, approximately a thirty-car motorcade traveled from the outskirts of DeKalb to our new home downtown in DeKalb, one block from the business district.

Upon arrival at the new church, the congregation marched into the spacious auditorium as the organ sweetly rang forth the challenge, "Onward Christian Soldiers." The morning worship was highlighted as Brother Black retraced the history of the beginning struggles and growth of the Church of God in DeKalb, and outlined the plans for the future.

The official opening services were held two weeks later. Opening the services was certainly a time of rejoicing. Brother Sam Edmunds, our district pastor and also pastor of Rochelle, preached the first two nights. His sermons were most appropiate and he certainly blessed our hearts. Bro. Joel Brown and Brother R. D. Harris also stirred the church with their message. On Sunday morning, Brother Ralph Quest was our guest speaker. Brother Quest spoke on the great subject of "Faith." His sermon gave us a new determination to reach higher heights for God.

On Sunday afternoon at 2:30, October 21, was the service to which we had looked forward for the past few months with great anticipation. The main auditorium was practically filled. We were happy to have visitors from the neighboring churches. Brother Goff, our state overseer, delivered the official opening message, helping us to realize more than ever before the greatness of our God.



Our church is located one block from the main business district of town. A city parking lot is directly across from the church, which is very convenient. The building has an insurance appraisal of $100,000. We have a co-insurance policy on the church for $81,000. The amazing thing about it is, we gave $18,000. for it. On the day of our opening service, we received $1300 in cash and $700 in pledges. We now owe a balance of $12,000 with monthly payments of $116.68. The church is equipped with pews, kitchen and plenty of Sunday School rooms. We also have nice living quarters for the pastor in the rear of the building. One of our members is buying the church a new $1500 organ.

The Lord has certainly proved Himself to the Church of God in DeKalb. The church is only eight years old in the town, and already we have, as many have termed it, "one of the nicest properties in the State of Illinois." We are looking forward to even greater victories in the future. We join with the writer of old when he said, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord."

—Leon Singleton, Reporter

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Pastor Used of God in Praying for the Sick

ROSE HILL, Va.—I should like to thank and praise the Lord for what He has done for us at Rose Hill, Virginia. He sent us our good pastor, Brother and Sister Curtis Lockhart, for which we give Him all the praise. Brother Lockhart and his good wife are doing a wonderful work for the Lord in going from house to house inviting everyone to attend church and by praying for the sick. He preaches under the anointing of God which blesses our souls. Pray for us that the Lord will continue to bless and that we shall do His will. *—Reporter*

New Church Property Purchased

EDINBURG, Texas—The Church of God at Edinburg, Texas, has recently purchased the former First Baptist Church in San Juan, Texas. The property is valued at $15,000. Two lots are included with the property. The church is located 2 blocks south of U.S. Highway 83 on Seventh and Lincoln Streets. The church has 15 Sunday School rooms. The sanctuary is 36 x 55 feet, including the rostrum. Please pray for us here as we are in a new district in the Valley. It is called the Magic Valley. It is 30 miles wide and 150 miles long and is about equal to Florida in citrus fruit and other crops. The church has been here 30 years and has just now been able to expand by the help of God and our pastor, Brother C. E. Neal. —*Guy Lulow, Reporter*

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New Church in Detroit Notes Remarkable Growth

DETROIT, Mich.—The Trumbull Avenue Church of God, less than one year old, grows under the able leadership of Brother Henry Robertson, well-known church organizer and builder. This church is his thirty-second building for the Church of God. Over 275 have been saved, 160 have been filled with the Holy Ghost, and about 140 have united with the Church. The tithes for the past month were $631. They have purchased a $10,000 church building and have remodeled it at a cost of $500; and a nine-room parsonage, with hardwood floors throughout has been bought at a cost of $8,500. The Lord is blessing this work in a mighty way. We have had many outstanding revivals, but we are now in the greatest with Brother Joel Stamper of Pryor, Oklahoma, as the evangelist. Thirty-six have been saved, 14 sanctified, and 9 filled with the Holy Ghost. Although it was thought the large attendance would not hold up during the Christmas holidays, this only seemed to add to the fire, with bigger congregations than ever. The power of God swept the whole house many nights; no one could preach; people were getting saved sitting in their seats, and the saints were shouting and rejoicing in the Lord. God was present to heal the sick in a great way. Ten have been received into the Church, and we are looking for others to come in soon.

—*Melvin Rice, Clerk*

LaFayette Church Purchases Methodist Building

LaFAYETTE, Ga.—The beautiful church building above was purchased by the LaFayette Church of God from the Methodist Church on September 20, 1956, for $25,000. This spacious edifice is ideally situated one block off the main street in LaFayette; it is 52 x 90 feet in size with a three-story annex across the back which is arranged for an educational department.

At the entrance there are two vestibules, and as you can see from the picture the front is beautifully graced with large columns. The church has cathedral glass windows, carpeted floors, and curved factory-built pews. The plant includes a large beautiful sanctuary with a small auditorium at the rear of the main sanctuary; a pastor's study and church office; a basement containing a kitchen, a nursery and four classrooms. On the top floor are six classrooms. Each floor has rest rooms.

The church has a complete heating plant of two floor furnaces which heat the annex and the sanctuary. The choir has been completely remodeled at a cost of $2,000 some two years ago.

This building was dedicated by the Methodists in 1924. There were some 90,000 large brick used in the construction (three of these brick are equivalent to five of the regular size brick used today). The cost of constructing this building in 1924 was $36,000; this cost was without furnishings.

Other items included with the purchase are as follows: (1) an outside bulletin board which is complete with automatic time switch (not shown); (2) flower stands which match pulpit furniture in sanctuary; (3) eight tables in classrooms; (4) sixteen chairs; (5) four blackboards; (6) electric heaters in basement; (7) two bookcases; (8) curtains and draperies; (9) nursery wool rug; (10) extra pulpit, platform and storage cabinet.

The Church of God will get possession of this property on July 1, 1957. We have paid $1,000 to close the deal. After selling our present church property and raising all that we can between now and July, we will owe a balance of approximately $14,000. This is a pretty big undertaking with a membership of only 135, but we are confident that God will help us to pay off this indebtedness in record time.

Every department in our church is encouraged and has a mind to work for God. There is unity and complete cooperation in this program.—*Brooks Youngblood, Pastor*

revivals

Eight Converted in Oklahoma Meeting

RAVIA, Okla. — We recently closed a wonderful revival with Brother Bobby Rose as the evangelist. He certainly did some great preaching. Eight were saved, 4 sanctified, and 3 filled with the Holy Ghost. Two were baptized in water, and 2 united with the Church.

—Sister E. W. Smith, Reporter

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Young Minister Conducts Successful Revival

MARIETTA, Ga.—We just closed a two and a half weeks' revival with Brother W. M. Rowe, Jr., as the evangelist. The Church of God at Marietta, Georgia, will profit from this revival in days to come. We cannot determine the success of a revival by just what we see accomplished at the present time, but we must look ahead to greater days. During the revival 7 were saved. Many of the members were revived, and several testified of being healed. We do thank the Lord for the visitation of the Holy Spirit. Brother Rowe is a very good preacher, and he will be a blessing to any church. He has been in the ministry only since February but he knows how to deliver a message that will lift up the church. Anyone desiring to have him for a revival may contact him at DeSota Trailer Park, 3950 Ninth Avenue, North, St. Petersburg, Florida.

—Ariel S. Yorkman, Pastor

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Good Revival and Progress Noted in New Church

HOPEWELL, Va.—We praise the Lord for what He has done for us at Hopewell, Virginia. We thank Him for sending us our wonderful pastor, Brother I. C. Collins, and his family. We have just closed a week's revival with our pastor doing the preaching. Three were saved, 3 sanctified, 3 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 3 added to the Church. When I came to Hopewell we held our services in a small mission and had only 8 members. Now we have a new church building with 4 Sunday School rooms, a room used by the Ladies' Willing Worker's Band, a large steam table and refrigerator which help in preparing and serving meals to raise funds to further our church and its work. The church membership is now 58, for which we praise the Lord. The Lord has blessed our work. We recently completed a new parsonage with 5 rooms and bath. Pray for us that our work will continue.

—Mrs. Bertha Burke, Reporter

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Fall Revival at Lee College

One of the outstanding highlights of each year at Lee College is the annual fall revival. Throughout the year at Lee, emphasis is placed on the spiritual development of the students, but during the fall revival, special attention is given to this phase of the student's progress.

Lee College is always fortunate in being able to secure outstanding evangelists for these services. This year the speaker for the morning and evening services was the Reverend Billy Sunday Myers, pastor of the Church of God in York, South Carolina.

The response by both students and faculty to Brother Myers' sermons was great. Since the core of the curriculum at Lee is the Bible, Brother Myers' Biblical preaching was most welcome. Eternity alone will reveal the impact which the gospel sermons had on the congregation at Lee.

The altar services during the revival were most rewarding. Persons were saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost, and students who already had the baptism of the Holy Spirit were revived and refreshed by the blessings of the Lord which were upon each service.

—Robert Humbertson, Registrar

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Revival Fires Bright in Missouri

ROUGGLY, Mo. — Revival fires have burned brightly at the Rouggly Church of God for the past three weeks. Our excellent evangelist, Brother D. E. Crane, was anointed nightly by the Holy Ghost to bring soul-stirring messages that blessed the Christians and brought conviction upon the sinners. The results of the revival were good. Eighteen were saved, 8 sanctified, 8 filled with the Holy Ghost and 5 added to the Church. I am confident that the revival, which closed on a high spiritual plane with 3 saved and 1 filled with the Holy Ghost on the last night, will continue to bless the church for months to come.

—Christopher Moree
State Youth Director

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Pre-revival Prayer Brings Mighty Outpouring

LONGVIEW, Wash.—We have been enjoying a great visitation of the power of God. On September

27, we began praying for a revival. We prayed for ten days, then announced the revival. We have had good attendance from the very beginning of the meeting. The first four weeks there were a few persons saved. The enemy wanted us to close the meeting, but we believed in God, and in the name of Jesus we would conquer. At the beginning of the fifth week, four persons prayed through to the Holy Ghost. Since then God has moved marvelously. Twenty-five were saved, 21 sanctified, 20 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 19 united with the Church of God. The meeting continued ten and a half weeks. The brethren of the local church preached during the revival. Many nights the Holy Ghost took charge of the service, and there was no sermon. Many were healed in this revival. One sister was healed of a goiter. Praise God, the days of Holy Ghost revivals are not over.

—Ira J. Cruce, Pastor

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Ten Converted in Georgia Church

COBBTOWN, Ga. — Brother Willard Chancey conducted a two-week revival at the Hillside Church of God of Cobbtown, Georgia. Ten were saved, 2 filled with the Holy Ghost and 6 united with the Church. Brother Chancey will be a blessing to any church.

—Ernest W. Ashmore, Pastor

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Young Evangelist Conducts Successful Youth Revival

EAST BELMONT, N. C.—We have just closed one of the greatest youth revivals the church has ever experienced. God was with us in every service. We felt privileged to have Brother Alex Dunn, Jr., as our evangelist. Brother Dunn was with us five weeks, and, in our opinion, he is the best the Church of God has to offer. His preaching and singing certainly are a blessing to people of all ages. Brother Dunn is especially good in working with the young people. He has forsaken all to follow God, and the Lord is really blessing his work. We would highly recommend Brother Dunn to any church. God blessed us with many souls. Approximately 20 were saved, 15 sanctified, 5 filled with the Holy Ghost, 3 united with the Church, and a number healed. The people here have been stirred to work for the coming of Jesus. I feel that the effects of the revival are lasting ones. God is blessing the church here in a great way. Pray for us.

—Rosa Adcock, Y.P.E. President

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Adamsville Has "Greatest Revival"

ATLANTA, Ga.—We wish to offer thanks to God through the *Evangel* for the revival just closed at the Adamsville Church of God. This was the most successful revival in the church history in the way of conversions. Approximately 17 were saved, 4 sanctified and 4 filled with the Holy Ghost. There have been several additions to the Church and 10 candidates for water baptism. Brother Dolle King was the evangelist. I would recommend him to any church as a deeply consecrated man of God. Prayer for the work here is sincerely coveted.

—E. L. Brown, Pastor

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Good Revival in Bermuda

HAMILTON, Bermuda—God is certainly getting His people ready for His coming. We have just closed a two-week revival in the Church of God in Hamilton, Bermuda. Sister Lulu Mae Russ from Perry, Georgia, was the evangelist. She seemed to receive strength each night as she preached the Word of God under the anointing of the mighty Holy Ghost. Many unbelievers who had never been in a holiness meeting before, came to hear the Word of God. Even some Christians said they had never seen the power of God so strong in Bermuda. The Holy Ghost was with us each night, and God's messenger had to give way to the mighty power of God as it moved over the audience and took control of the services. Six were saved, 5 sanctified, and 3 baptized with the Holy Ghost. God is still blessing in our regular services as we continue to do His will. We desire your prayers here in Bermuda.

—C. F. Fubbler, Overseer

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New Church Has Good Revival

COVINGTON, Tenn.—The Pleasant Hill Church of God witnessed a revival in the beautiful new church that has recently been dedicated, November 11, with the Reverend Jacob Hutchinson, evangelist from Memphis. Two were added to the Church, and there has been a great interest among the young people. The church was really blessed. We are expecting greater things from God.

—Mrs. Hazel Creasy, Pastor

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Foreign Missions Emphasized

RICHMOND, Ind.—God wonderfully blessed in our recent revival with Brother H. B. Sizemore of Vanceburg, Kentucky. Eight were saved, 4 sanctified, 5 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 1 was baptized in water. Brother Sizemore set aside a special night for missions on the last night of the revival. Following a wonderful sermon, he raised $776 for missions. We are still thanking God, as we are receiving these missions pledges, for what He has done for us in this revival. Brother Sizemore, through his efforts, has helped us go over the top with our missions goal. Three were added to the Church during the revival. Brother Sizemore has truly been a great blessing to our church and we are thanking God for sending him our way.

—Mrs. Patricia Jordan, Clerk

in memoriam

DU PLOOY

A cablegram has been received from South Africa telling of the death of the Reverend W. A. du Plooy on December 24. He died after a blood clot formed following an operation. Prayer is requested for his bereaved family and the work in South Africa.

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WALKER

The Reverend William P. Walker departed this life December 15, 1956, to be with the Lord. He passed quietly in his sleep at the age of 94 years, 5 months, and 12 days. He was known in the western part of the state as the old trail blazer for the Church of God. He will be missed by his many friends and loved ones. He also prayed for many sick people during his last days and God blessed and healed. Officiating at the funeral were Brother T. J. Looney, Brother V. L. Gasaway, and Brother Arvle Nations. Brother Walker is survived by his wife, Annie M. Walker, 2 sons, 3 daughters, 2 stepsons, 3 stepdaughters, 33 grandchildren, 52 great-grandchildren, 8 great-great-grandchildren, and 4 brothers. He was laid to rest in the Birchfield Cemetery near Bryson City, North Carolina. *—T. J. Looney, Pastor*

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EASLEY

Brother Virgil Easley, age 72, departed this life November 25, 1956, after a lingering illness. He was born in Comanche, Texas, on September 4, 1884. Brother Easley united with the Church of God in 1928. He was consecrated and devoted to the Church. He served in the capacity of teacher, Sunday School superintendent, and several years in the ministry in the Church of God. His consecrated life will be remembered by all who knew him. He leaves to mourn his departure, his wife, Mrs. Ellen Easley, 3 sons, 2 daughters, and a host of relatives and friends. His funeral was conducted at the Sherman Church of God by the Reverend H. N. Bridges, assisted by the Reverend Jack Key and the Reverend William Morrow. Burial was in the Odema Cemetery, Eldorado, Oklahoma.

—Victor Hamner

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DERRY

The Rev. A. L. Derry, of Indianapolis, Indiana, passed away in March of 1956. He was an ordained minister in the Church of God.

—James A. Stephens, Overseer

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COOK

Alma K. Cook, licensed minister in the Church of God, passed away in November, 1956. Her home was in Breckenridge, Michigan.

—Overseer of Michigan

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HARKINS

J. C. Harkins, licensed minister in the Church of God, passed away August 23, 1956. His home was in Jefferson, Georgia.

—W. E. Johnson, Overseer

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KNOTT

Alvin Knott departed this life October 25, 1956. He had been a member of the Church of God for 32 years. Funeral services were conducted at the Church of God in Roanoke, Alabama, with Brother C. O. Laird, Brother L. B. Hall, and Brother Olen Barrett officiating.

—Rev. Charles O. Laird, Pastor

BROWN

J. F. Brown, of Carrollton, Georgia, passed away in September of 1956. He was an ordained minister in the Church of God.

—W. E. Johnson, Overseer

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THURSTON

Katherine Thurston, of Elk Garden, West Virginia, died in September of 1956. She was an evangelist in the Church of God.

—G. C. Hamby, Overseer

— — —

COLLINS

Mrs. Beatrice Collins (colored), of Kannapolis, North Carolina, died October 24, 1956. She was an evangelist in the Church of God.

—W. L. Ford
Overseer of Colored Work

— — —

SMITH

Charles C. Smith, of Whitepine, Tennessee, died in September of 1956. He was a licensed minister in the Church of God.

—W. C. Byrd, Overseer

— — —

PEASE

R. H. Pease (colored), of Somerset, Pennsylvania, passed away in August of 1956. He was a licensed minister in the Church of God.

—W. L. Ford
Overseer of Colored Work

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DARLEY

Brother Harry Darley, charter member of the Church of God in Milford, Delaware, went to be with the Lord on December 21, 1956. He had been sick one week. He was 86 years, 9 months old. He was a faithful member and friend. He was a great inspiration to all who knew him. Our loss is heaven's gain. He leaves his wife, Clara Darley, one daughter, two grandchildren and two great grandchildren. His funeral was conducted by his pastor, Brother W. E. Tull.

—Mrs. Ethel Wisseman, Clerk

The Readers' Query

The Church at Pentecost

Will you please give the authority for the teaching that the church came into being on the Day of Pentecost? The name church (Hebrew gohal, rendered ekklesia in the Septuagint) is applied to Israel in the Old Testament, (Joshua 8:35, Ezra 2:64, Joel 2:15, 16). In the Old Testament as well as in the New, the original word denotes a congregation or an assembly of the people of God, as such serves to designate the essence of the church. In Matthew 18:17, "tell it unto the church," Christ recognized it as already existing. Acts 7:38 states that the church was in the wilderness and that our fathers received the lively oracles to give unto us. In both the Old and New Testaments the church consisted of true believers and I am unable to see how the church started on the Day of Pentecost.

—Derhl Dority
Jacksboro, Texas

WHILE THERE ARE many Scriptures that refer to a "church" before the Day of Pentecost, you must recognize that these references are either figurative or typical. The pre-Christian "church" was a shadow of what was to come. The Church of Jesus Christ came into being when He built it upon Himself. In Matthew 16:18, He said, "Upon this rock I *will build* my church." This Church had never before existed, even though its type had. The Lord's Church is not merely a congregation of called out ones, for they must be His Body, built on the Rock of His teachings, His death and His nature. "He is the head of the body, the church: *who is the beginning . . .*" (Colossians 1:18). We know that it was on the Day of Pentecost that the fulfillment of Christ's Church was realized. The "Rock" or cornerstone of Jesus Christ was laid (1 Peter 2:4-8) and, beginning on the Day of Pentecost, "the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved," Acts 2:47. From that day, when the figure became reality, the Church is seen as the dynamic, identifiable body of "called out ones," the Body of Christ.

Anger Not Always Wrong

Do you think sanctified people should get angry or wrathful? God keeps me from anger and if I should get angry I would be badly frightened.

—Mrs. Aurelia Gregg
Anniston, Alabama

ANGER IS NOT necessarily an evil or even an undesirable emotion. The only anger that should frighten you is a childish, unreasonable anger that is aroused by frivolous causes. Anger is sometimes even a righteous emotion. Jesus was angry enough twice to drive money-changers from the Temple. Notice that He was angry at their wickedness. Psalm 7:11 says, "God is angry with the wicked every day." Again in Mark 3:5, we read that Jesus looked at His critics "with anger," but this, too, was because of their evil. Throughout the Scriptures we read of God's anger. "The anger of the Lord . . . shall smoke against that man," Deuteronomy 29:20.

"Then shall the anger of the Lord be kindled against you," Joshua 23:16.

"I was wroth with my people," Isaiah 47:6.

"But the wrath of God abideth on him," John 3:36.

Romans 1:18 gives us an excellent statement of the wrath that is justifiable and divine: "The wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men." If all anger were wrong we would have no such admonitions as: "Be ye angry *and sin not*" (Ephesians 4:26); "A bishop must be . . . not *soon* angry" (Titus 1:7); and "Whosoever is angry with his brother *without a cause* shall be in danger of the judgment" (Matthew 5:22).

Indeed, we should be angry at dishonesty, deceit, unfairness, untruthfulness, lying and all ungodliness of men. We should be afraid when we are indifferent to these things and then become angry only when something crosses or irritates us personally.

Holy Ghost Abides Forever

Does the Bible teach that the Holy Ghost will be taken out of the world at the rapture of the Church?

—Name withheld by request

NO. THE HOLY Ghost is here forever (John 14:16). The Holy Ghost has been everywhere since the beginning, and as He brooded over the world when it was in chaos (Genesis 1:2) so shall He forever be present in all the world.

Few Are Loved by All

Please explain the Scripture Luke 6:26, "Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you!" Does it mean if we live right and a lot of people speak well of us that there is a woe for us?

—B. L. Dubose
Monticello, Florida

NOTICE THAT the verse says "*ALL*" men, not "many," or as you have said, "a lot of." All men will not speak well of anyone who lives righteously, for to be righteous, our very life must be in opposition to sin. To be spoken well of by all men, a person would have to agree with all men, that is, refuse to disagree with evil and wrong, holiness and right. It would take a hypocrite of the first rank to accomplish this, and a woe is certainly pronounced on hypocrites.

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